GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:956
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003
CLEANING OF RIVER GANGA AND YAMUNA
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of pollution in river Ganga and Yamuna at the time of launching Ganga and Yamuna Action Plan, at major cities along these rivers;

(b) the total expenditure incurred on these plans so far and funds earmarked for the current fiscal year;

(c) the extent to which pollution of both these rivers have been controlled and level of pollution as on November 01, 2003; and

(d) by when both these rivers will become pollution free?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) to (c) The extent of pollution in river Ganga and Yamuna at the time of launch of river cleaning programme and their present status as of 2003 (summer average figures) in terms of two critical parameters to assess river water quality i.e. dissolved oxygen (DO) and bio-chemical oxygen demand (BOD) at major cities along these rivers as per the water quality monitoring reports carried out through different reputed institutions is given at Annexure. From these figures, it is observed that on completion of 294 pollution abatement schemes of Ganga river, the water quality has shown improvement over the pre-Ganga Action Plan period water quality. It is observed that in 1986, the bio-chemical oxygen demand, which is an indicator of pollution of river water quality, was ranging from 5.5 to 15.5 mg/l (as against the standard of less than 3 mg/l) in the critical stretch of Ganga from Kannauj to Varanasi. As against this, the values of BOD in 2003 in the stretch of Kannauj to Kanpur and Allahabad to Varanasi are (1.2 to 6.1 mg/l) and (2.5 to 5.4 mg/l) respectively. Similarly, dissolved oxygen levels which indicate the health of the river were in the range of 5.6 to 6.6 mg/l (as against the standard of greater than 5 mg/l) in 1986 in the Allahabad to Varanasi stretch and in 2003 the range improved to 7.2 to 10.0.mg/l. Regarding Yamuna river, although the BOD and DO levels in Haryana are generally satisfactory in 2003, these levels are still beyond permissible limits in the States of Delhi & Uttar Pradesh.This has happened due to significant increase in the quantum of waste water generated in Delhi and other towns of Uttar Pradesh. Also many schemes of sewage treatment plants in these States are still to be completed.

The total expenditure incurred on Ganga and Yamuna Action Plans (GAP & YAP) so far is Rs. 1189.20 crore (GAP - Rs. 597.70 crores, YAP - 591.50 crore). The Ganga and Yamuna Action Plans fall under the umbrella scheme of National River Conservation Plan for which an amount of Rs. 244 crore has been earmarked for the current fiscal year.

(d) So far 294 schemes of pollution abatement for Ganga river and 254 schemes of pollution abatement for Yamuna river have been completed. The full impact of Ganga and Yamuna Action Plans on the abatement of river pollution will be visible only after all the approved and planned works under the action plans are completed. The progress of these works would also depend upon matching Plan outlay and timely availability of funds.

Annexure referred to in parts (a) to (c) of reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 956 to be answered on Monday, the 8th December, 2003 on Cleaning of River Ganga and Yamuna.

WATER QUALITY DATA FOR RIVER GANGA (Summer Average i.e. March-June)

S.No. Station/Location 1986 2003

DO BOD DO BOD

(mg/l) (mg/l) (mg/l) (mg/l)

1. Rishikesh 8.1 1.7 9.2 0.5

2. Hardwar D/s 8.1 1.8 9.0 0.8

3. Garhmukteshwar 7.8 2.2 8.2 1.2

4. Kannauj U/S 7.2 5.5 7.9 1.2

5. Kannauj D/S NA NA 6.2 3.3
6. Kanpur U/S 7.2 7.2 6.7 3.7

7 Kanpur D/S 6.7 8.6 4.4 6.1

8. Allahabad U/S 6.4 11.4 10.0 4.8

9. Allahabad D/S 6.6 15.5 7.3 3.2
10. Varanasi U/S 5.6 10.1 7.2 2.5
11. Varanasi D/S 5.9 10.6 8.1 5.4
12. Palta U/S 8.4 2.0 7.5 2.0
13. Patna D/S 8.1 2.2 7.8 2.8
14. Rajmahal 7.8 1.8 7.5 2.2
15. Palta NA NA 7.2 2.2
16. Uluberia NA NA 5.6 1.9

Bathing Water Quality Criteria: DO equal to or more than 5.0 mg/l
BOD equal to or less than 3.0 mg/l

Summer Average (March - June) 1996-2003 YAMUNA ACTION PLAN

<1996> <2003->

S.NO. Site DO BOD DO BOD

(mg/I) (mg/I) (mg/I) (mg/I)

A. HARYANA

1 Tajewala 11.70 1.20 4.90 1.30
2 Kalanaur 10.40 1.05 4.70 1.30

3 Sonepat 9.75 3.00 7.40 1.80
4 Palla 13.95 6.00 7.50 1.50

B. DELHI

5 Nizamudin Bridge 0.30 25.00 - 28.80

C. UTTAR PRADESH

6 Agra Canal 0.35 26.50 0.30 18.00
7 Majhawali 0.50 22.00 3.90 15.80
8 Mathura 8.10 4.00 6.90 13.30
9 Mathura D/S 8.50 2.50 6.90 9.30

10 Agra U/S 10.65 4.50 4.70 18.30
11 Agra D/S 1.65 9.00 5.40 29.50
12 Batteshwar 13.90 11.00 4.70 10.30
13 Etawah 11.16 7.00 5.80 10.80
14 UDI 9.71 2.00 4.30 2.80
15 AuraiyaJuhika 8.14 5.00 6.10 4.80

-->Summer average (March+April)